

TERMINATION - PERS. PERS-1

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the holding time at Area F, as obviously there is a large backlog of returns for Transportation to notify us of large shipments of returns and then we in turn contact the Branches.

5. My guess is that this 15 November 1945 occurred because of the many changes in the Branches in these dealings, as well as the changes in the Branches. However, because of the informal nature of the Branches, I feel MEMORANDUM can be properly placed upon it.

6. I took the liberty of summarizing this memorandum. TO: Colonel E. W. Gamble, Jr. FROM: Lt. Comdr. B. W. Antell, USNR

SUBJECT: Processing of Communications Returnees from any Branch without the written consent of the Branch.

1. Ever since liquidation set in in earnest we have had an oral understanding with the Branches that they would be informed of the arrival of returnees as follows:

a) If a shipment was large enough for Transportation to make a list by name, branch and other information, Transportation would send a copy of this list to every Branch involved as well as to us; this list to serve as notice to the Branches that the men were on the verge of being back in Washington. It was understood that the Branches were to notify us upon receipt of this list of any men they wished held, otherwise we would process them out.

b) If a shipment were too small for Transportation to make up a list, we would telephone the Branches involved to inform them of the men coming back and to ascertain their desires.

2. This system has apparently worked out very well excepting for this complaint on the part of Communications.

3. Communications has been regularly receiving the list from Transportation, but thought that we would follow up with a telephone call.

4. I frankly admit that this procedure was adopted in order to expedite our liquidating and to reduce to a minimum

the holding time at Area F, as obviously time is lost if we wait for Transportation to notify us of large shipments by name or returnees and then we in turn contact the Branches.

5. My guess is that this slip-up with Communications occurred because of the many changes in their personnel involved in these dealings, as well as the changes in our own Branch. However, because of the informal nature of this arrangement, I feel that the blame can be properly placed upon us.

6. I took the liberty of discussing this memorandum with Colonel Mero who in turn called in Captain Greenfield. I agreed with them that hereafter we would in all cases telephone Communications before releasing any of their men.

7. In no cases have any low point men been released from any Branch without the written consent of the Branch involved.

The bulk of the para B. W. A. required in the continental United States is Message Center and Warehouse personnel. Message Center personnel is never kept closely proportioned to the number actually required. It tends to grow to handle the traffic with major or disaster centers (traffic which tends to be increased more by major administrative changes than it is immediately decreased by the replacement program).

Warehouse personnel, responsible for the disposal of excess property and clearing the property records, will necessarily be the last to be radically reduced in number.

It is believed, therefore, that the figure on the attached sheet for personnel required in the continental United States is close to an irreducible minimum.

8. Attention is drawn to a most serious situation which has arisen in connection with the availability of key personnel for discharge under the point system. All but five of the officer personnel assigned to operations of this branch are eligible for discharge at any time, and over fifty percent of the enlisted personnel will successively become eligible for discharge during the next five weeks. In view of this situation, the Communications Branch, in the immediate future, will have considerable difficulty in performing its functions and by the latter part of November will have to function elsewhere unless measures are taken without delay to

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Col. Gamble

Communications
Zile
25 October 1945

SUBJECT: Communications Personnel

TO : Colonel Gamble

1. There is attached hereto an estimate of personnel required to operate SSU Communications from this date to December 31, 1945.

The figure on overseas personnel, based on latest available information, is subject to the usual inaccuracies of such figures resulting from delayed information and the possibility of radical changes in the plans of the branches being served by overseas communications.

The bulk of the personnel required in the continental United States is Message Center and Warehouse personnel. Message Center personnel is being kept closely proportioned to the number actually required from week to week to handle the traffic with overseas message centers (traffic which tends to be increased more by major administrative changes than it is immediately decreased by the retrenchment program).

Warehouse personnel, responsible for the disposal of excess property and clearing the property records, will necessarily be the last to be radically reduced in number.

It is believed, therefore, that the figure on the attached sheet for personnel required in the continental United States is close to an irreducible minimum.

2. Attention is drawn to a most serious situation which has arisen in connection with the eligibility of key personnel for discharge under the point system. All but five of the officer personnel engaged in operation of this branch are eligible for discharge at this time, and over fifty percent of the enlisted personnel will successively become eligible for discharge during the next five weeks. In view of this situation the Communications Branch, in the immediate future, will have considerable difficulty in performing its functions and by the latter part of November will cease to function altogether unless measures are taken without delay to

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Col. Gamble

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25 October 1945

employ civilian personnel.

The most apparent solution would be to have discharged personnel waive terminal leave in favor of immediate employment as civilians on some temporary basis.

Peter G. S. Mero.
PETER G. S. MERO

Personnel		In U. S.	
United States	10	Executive Office	1
France	12	Administrative & Personnel	2
Japan	26	Supply & Maintenance	15
Germany	9	Research Center	25
Italy	8	Laboratory & Field Studies	2
India-Burma	14	Scientific Control	1
China	15	Public Works	2
U. S. Theater	10		
Miscellaneous	10*		100
	100		

* Personnel in process of reassignment to other Department. etc.

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Personnel required to continue to operate SSU Communications during liquidation of war time services, and until final disposition (i.e. liquidation or absorption by a new Agency) October 1, 1945, to December 31, 1945.

In U. S.	165
Overseas	<u>193</u>
	358

<u>Overseas</u>		<u>In U. S.</u>	
United Kingdom	10	Executive Office	4
France	12	Administration & Personnel	8
Amzon	26	Supply & Warehouse	45
Austria	9	Message Center	95
Italy	8	Laboratory & Maintenance	8
India-Burma	35	Security Control	3
China	65	Traffic Office	<u>2</u>
N. E. Theater	18		165
Miscellaneous	<u>10*</u>		
	193		

* Personnel in process of reassignment to State Department, etc.

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